Setting up of Youth Hostels

773. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Youth Hostels are built to promote youth travel and to enable the youth to experience the cultural heritage of our country; and

(b) if so, the details of youth hostels proposed to be set up in the tribal areas for the promotion of cultural heritage of tribals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M. S. GILL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of youth hostels which are being set up for the promotion of cultural heritage in tribal areas, are as under:

S. No.	State	Location of the Youth Hostel	Amount Approved (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Arunachal Pradesh	Roing	183.51
2.	Manipur	(i) Thoubal	186.58
		(ii) Churachandpur	202.50

Promotion of traditional/indigenous games

774. SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether specific policies have been formulated to preserve and promote traditional/indigenous games;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the names of traditional/indigenous games identified for the purpose, State-wise; and

(c) the quantum of funds allocated and measures taken for the promotion and development of sports infrastructure in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (DR. M. S. GILL): (a) and (b) The existing schemes of Government of India and Sports Authority of India (SAI) lay adequate focus on the promotion of traditional and indigenous games.

Under the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs), the sports federations dealing with indigenous/traditional games such as Archery, Chess, Kho-Kho, Tug of War, Kabaddi, Wrestling etc. have been given Government recognition, and are provided with financial assistance for the promotional and developmental activities in their respective disciplines.

(c) The details of financial assistance to the sports federations dealing with indigenous/traditional games under the Scheme of Assistance to NSFs during the last three years are given below:

(Rs. in lakh)

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Archery Association of India	51.75	94.68	81.67
2.	All India Chess Federation	78.94	112.46	239.94